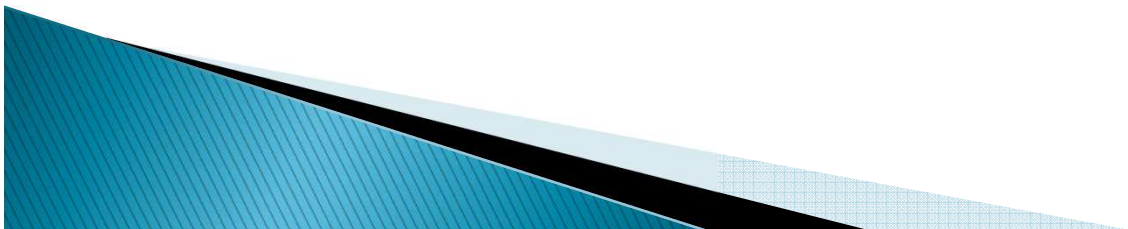


# 2013 Michigan Traffic Safety Summit

Law Enforcement and Motorcycle Safety

# Motorcycle Safety

- ▶ Reducing motorcycle crashes is a complex task
  - Diverse target and user groups
  - Difficult to reach consensus and rally support
  - Available data may not be “painting an accurate picture”
  - Few states measure and evaluate efforts
  - Little evidence regarding successful and effective countermeasures
  - Most states rely on operator training and public awareness (motorist awareness)



# Motorcycle Safety

- ▶ NHTSA and states moving to a comprehensive approach for motorcycle safety
- ▶ NHTSA's Guideline for motorcycle safety identifies 11 components for a comprehensive approach
- ▶ A comprehensive approach
  - Allows more essential partners to be involved
  - Encourages more creative and successful initiatives
  - Focuses on the real issues
  - Reaches more of the targeted audiences



# Michigan's Motorcycle Crashes

- ▶ What are Michigan's current motorcycle crash issues?
- ▶ What is the data telling us?



# Michigan's Motorcycle Crashes

- ▶ Impaired operation – alcohol and drugs (35% of fatalities)
- ▶ Unendorsed (motorcycle endorsement) crashes and fatalities (50 to 55% unendorsed and possibly 49,000 own a motorcycle but no motorcycle endorsement)
- ▶ 2012 fatalities up approximately 18%



# Michigan Law Enforcement Agencies

- ▶ Is your law enforcement agency involved in Michigan's motorcycle safety program?
- ▶ What are you doing?



# Highway Safety Program Guideline No. 3 – Motorcycle Safety

## ▶ VII. Law Enforcement

- Each State should ensure its motorcycle safety programs include a law enforcement component.
- Each State should emphasize strongly the role played by law enforcement personnel in motorcycle safety.



# NHTSA's Guideline for Law Enforcement

- ▶ Law enforcement's role:
  - Establishing agency goals to support motorcycle safety
  - Providing training to law enforcement personnel in motorcycle safety
  - Developing knowledge of motorcycle crash situations, investigating crashes, and maintaining a reporting system that documents crash activity and supports problem identification and evaluation activities;
  - Providing communication and education support;





# 2013 SMSA Law Enforcement Survey

- ▶ 25 SMSA members responded
  - 13 indicated law enforcement was included in their state's motorcycle safety program
  - 20 indicated that law enforcement motorcycle safety initiatives were included in their Highway Safety Plan
  - 17 indicated that law enforcement motorcycle safety initiatives were included in their Strategic Highway Safety Plan
  - 12 reported that they “reached out” to law enforcement to be part of the state's motorcycle safety program
  - Most of the initiatives and activities are funded through Highway Safety Office grants



# Law enforcement activities

- Participated in local awareness events during motorcycle safety awareness month
- Encouraged law enforcement to include motorcycles in their high visibility DUI activities
- Encouraged high visibility “presence” at large motorcycle events
- Conducted formal training for law enforcement officers on motorcycle issues
- Supported law enforcement “traveling road shows”



# Law enforcement activities

- Provided “roll call” videos (NHTSA), pocket cards and information brochures that could be distributed at events and at the time a citation is issued
- Encouraged law enforcement officers to become instructors, complete basic rider course, advertise courses and sponsor courses
- Had law enforcement officers present at rider training courses and driver education courses
- Included law enforcement on Task Forces and Coalitions



# Law enforcement activities





# Law enforcement activities



***We're watching.***

**Riding or driving drunk or high? We'll provide the chaser.**

Riding while impaired is one of the top three causes of motorcycle injury crashes.

WSP WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING Traffic Safety

# Law enforcement activities



# Issues With Law Enforcement Involvement

- ▶ Enforcement is primary responsibility – no time or money for much more
- ▶ Motorcycles are a small portion of the total traffic mix
- ▶ Political nightmare – advocates and judicial support
- ▶ No pursuit policy
- ▶ No one asked law enforcement to be involved
- ▶ Biases and “brotherhood”
- ▶ Few, if any, effective and successful approaches



# Areas Needing Work

- ▶ Accurate crash investigation, reporting and data
- ▶ Impaired riding enforcement
- ▶ Licensing and endorsement enforcement
- ▶ Aggressive operation enforcement
- ▶ High visibility, targeted and saturation enforcement
- ▶ Safe places to pull over motorcyclists
- ▶ Protocols and procedures for pulling over motorcycles





# NHTSA Research

- ▶ **Motorcycle Law Enforcement Demonstrations**
  - Implementation of motorcycle safety checks to improve motorcycle safety and compliance with jurisdictional laws.
- ▶ **Law Enforcement Training**
  - NHTSA has partnered with the International Association of Directors of Law Enforcement Standards and Training (IADLEST) to develop and deliver a training program to educate law enforcement on motorcycle safety and their role in reducing motorcycle crashes.



# NHTSA Research

- ▶ **Demonstration to Increase the Number of Properly Endorsed Motorcyclists**
  - Implementation of strategies designed to increase proper motorcycle operator licensure, including outreach to law enforcement personnel about the issue of improperly licensed motorcycle riders.
- ▶ **Demonstration of an Impaired Riding Crackdown**
  - A demonstration project in multiple States that will follow the high visibility enforcement model to decrease alcohol-impaired motorcycle riding.



# The Challenge

- ▶ What can your law enforcement agency do in 2013 and 2014 to address Michigan's current motorcycle safety issues?
- ▶ What do you need to make this happen?



# Contact Information

- ▶ Andrew Krajewski
  - ▶ Director, Driver Safety MD MVA
- ▶ SMSA, Chairperson of Executive Committee
  - ▶ Email: [akrajewski@mdot.state.md.us](mailto:akrajewski@mdot.state.md.us)

